

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 FDRE-00 IO-10 SAM-01 /065 W

----- 015616

O R 151149Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 277

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6464

E.O 1165:H GDS

TAGS: MILI, MARR, TH

SUBJ: U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWALS

1. PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT IS QUOTED IN THE APRIL 15 EDITIONS OF THE BANGKOK POST AND THE NATION AS SAYING THAT THE RTG WILL PROCEED WITH ITS TARGET OF HAVING ALL US FORCES WITHDRAWN WITHIN A YEAR BECAUSE HE CANNOT SEE THAT THEIR PRESENCE OR THEIR DEPARTURE WILL CHANGE THE SITUATION HERE. KHUKRIT ADDED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY BETWEEN THE THAI AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS IN WASHINGTON.
2. COMMENT: THE RTG IS UNDER DAILY PRESSURE FROM THE THAI PRESS TO ACCOUNT FOR PROGRESS IN FOLLOWING UP THE RTG'S ORIGINAL POLICY STATEMENT TO REMOVE ALL AMERICAN TROOPS FROM THAILAND WITHIN A YEAR'S TIME. HE RTG IS WAITING FOR US TO SET THE DATE.KHUKRIT'S ASSERTION THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDER WAY IN WASHINGTON WAS PRESUMABLY MOTIVATED BY A WISH TO GET THE PRESS OFF HIS BACK.
3. SHOULD THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN BE ASKED IF THE THAI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS RAISED THIS SUBJECT, WE HOPE THAT THE RESPONSE WILL BE COUCHED IN TERMS WHICH WILL AVOID ANY EBARRASSMENT TO PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT

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AND MINIMIZE FURTHER PRESS SPECULATION IN BANGKOK.

MASTERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FORCE & TROOP LEVELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO06464
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750131-0197
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750449/aaaabtvi.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <24 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWALS
TAGS: MILI, MARR, TH, US, (KHUKRIT PRAMOT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006